ALLAN B. COX

Systems and Services Manager, Montana Natural Heritage Program
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Allan Cox is the Systems and Services Manager for the Montana Natural Heritage Program where he manages all of the information services—databases, web services and geographic information systems. The Natural Heritage Program is the source for information on Montana's native species and habitats, emphasizing those of conservation concern. The program is located in the Montana State Library as part of the Natural Resource Information System. Prior to coming to the Natural Heritage Program, Mr. Cox was the Program Manager for the Montana Census and Economic Information Center (CEIC) at the Montana Department of Commerce. The CEIC assists individuals, businesses, governments, communities and economic development efforts by providing Montana demographic and economic information and statistics, as well as technical expertise. Before CEIC, Mr. Cox was owner of Boreal Geographics, LLC—a geographic information and services (GIS) company. Prior to forming Boreal Geographics, he was part owner and Vice President of Geodata Services, Inc. of Missoula, Montana. Aside from ownership responsibilities, with Geodata, he acted as a GIS consultant and project manager. He has over 20 years of GIS and natural resource project and program management experience. From February 1992 to January 1998 Mr. Cox directed the Montana Natural Resource Information System (NRIS), a program of the Montana State Library. NRIS is a unique program that provides for the acquisition, storage, and retrieval of data relating to the natural resources of Montana. As director, he was responsible for all aspects of the management of the program, with a biennial budget in excess of $1.4 million. In 1987, Mr. Cox was responsible for the establishment of the GIS Program at NRIS. The GIS Program today is a state-of-the-art system providing information to public agencies on projects related to natural resources.

Mr. Cox also works part-time for Fire Logistics, Inc. where he provides GIS support for Type 1 and 2 incident command teams on large fires throughout the Northern Rockies. As such, he has worked on more than more than 15 large wildland fires in Montana, Idaho, and Colorado. Mr. Cox is an Adjunct Faculty at Carroll College in Helena, Montana where he teaches a Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems course.

Over the years, Mr. Cox has been actively involved in the coordination of the access and sharing of GIS information and technology. In Montana, he chaired an interagency management committee on GIS, served on the state geographic coordinating council, served on the Governor's Homeland Security Task Force GIS Sub-committee, and participates in the Montana Association of Geographic Information Professionals. Mr. Cox has been active at the national level in promoting GIS coordination. He is a founding member of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC), served on its board of directors, and chaired its business committee. Representing NSGIC, he chaired a national working group in 1993 to identify the communities of interest to be involved in the planning and development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure. From 1995 to 1998 Mr. Cox represented NSGIC as an advisor to the Steering Committee of the Great Plains International Data Network.

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Geography, 1987, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Thesis: *Map Position-finding in a Photographically Simulated Environment*

Bachelor of Arts in Communications with History minor, 1985, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Montana Natural Heritage Program Helena, Montana State Library	Systems and Services Manager May 2001 – Present
Fire Logistics, Inc. Montana City, Montana	GIS Coordinator May 2000 – Present
Census and Economic Information Center, Montana Department of Commerce Helena, Montana	Program Manager March 2000 – May 2001
Boreal Geographics, LLC Clancy, Montana	Owner and Consultant January 1999 – Present
Geodata Services, Inc. Missoula, Montana	Part Owner and Vice President January 1998 – December 1998
GeoWest Durango, Colorado	Contract GIS Consultant January 1994 – December 1997
Montana Natural Resource Information System, Montana State Library Helena, Montana	Director 1992 – 1998
Montana Natural Resource Information System, Montana State Library Helena, Montana	GIS Coordinator 1987 – 1992
Virginia GIS Project (VIRGIS) Blacksburg, Virginia	GIS Specialist 1987
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Blacksburg, Virginia	Graduate Research Assistant 1985 – 1987
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Blacksburg, Virginia	Instructional Media Producer/Director 1972 – 1984

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Member, Governor's Homeland Security Task Force, GIS Sub-committee, 2003 – 2007

Member, Montana Association of Geographic Professionals, 2004 - Present

Member, Montana GIS Users Group, 1988-2004

Member, Montana Geographic Information Council, 2002

Chair, Montana Interagency GIS Technical Working Group, 2002

Member and Chair of the Business Committee, National States Geographic Information Council, 1994

National States Geographic Information Council Representative to the Steering Committee of the Great Plains International Data Network, 1995-1998

Conference Program Chair, 1993 National States Geographic Information Council Annual Meeting, Williamsburg, Virginia, September 1993

Founding member and Board of Directors, National States Geographic Information Council, 1992-1993

Chair, National Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group on "Other Communities to Involve", Fall 1993

Chair, Montana Interagency GIS Steering Committee, 1993-1995

Member, Montana U.S. Geological Survey State Mapping Advisory Committee, 1988-1997

Member, Montana GIS Conference Planning Committees, 1988 to 1996

Member, Planning Committee, 1991 Northwest ARC/INFO Users Conference, Silverdale, Washington

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Cox, Allan B. and Fred Gifford. An Overview to Geographic Information Systems, *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, Volume 23, Number 6, 1997: 449-461.

Cox, Allan B. An Overview to Geographic Information Systems, *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, Volume 21, Number 4, 1995: 237-249.

Carstensen, Lawrence W. and Allan B. Cox. Teaching Effective Map Use: Position Finding and Environmental Simulation Using Still Photography, *The Virginia Geographer*, Volume 24, Number 2, Fall-Winter 1992

_____. Videodiscs and Surrogate Travel/The Map-Environment Interface, *CARTOGRAPHICA* Volume 26, Numbers 3 & 4, 1989: 1-21

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL HONORS

Elected Member of Phi Kappa Phi, National Honor Society, 1987

Elected Member of Gamma Theta Upsilon, Geographic Honor Society, 1987

Awarded Instructional Fee Scholarships, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Fall 1986, Winter 1987

Academic Dean's List, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Winter 1978, Spring 1978, Fall 1984, Winter 1985, Spring 1985

Special Merit Award, Council for Advancement and Support of Education, for "University/Diversity: Virginia", a recruitment and orientation film for Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 1983

Exceptional Achievement Award, Council for Advancement and Support of Education, for "Careers", a public service announcement for Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 1982

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Conduct regular workshops and training sessions to users of the Montana Natural Heritage Programs information and web applications (includes BLM, USFS, and Montana State employees)

Invited guest lecturer, Montana State University GIS Class ("Conservation GIS" and "GIS Use on Wildland Fire"), 2002, 2003.

Developed and taught numerous workshops and training sessions related to GIS and natural resource information.

Developed and taught "Geographic Information Systems: Basic Concepts" from 1989 to 2001 annually. This class was a one-day workshop taught at the Annual Montana GIS Conference (taught to a total of more than 300 students)

Assisted with cartography and GIS classes while a graduate teaching assistant at Virginia Tech (1985 to 1987)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING

Keye Productivity Center, Inc., *How to Build a Better Team*, Helena, Montana, March 1992

Padgett Thompson, Inc., *The Organized Manager*, Billings, Montana, October 1990

Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI), *ARC/INFO TIN Processing*, Redlands, California, April 1990

Padgett Thompson, Inc., *Basic Supervision*, Helena, Montana, February 1990

Prime Computer, Inc., *Prime Computer System Administration*, Toronto, Ontario, September/October 1988

ESRI, *ARC/INFO Processing Techniques (Navigating INFO)*, Olympia, Washington, June 1988

ESRI, *ARC/INFO Geographic Analysis*, Olympia, Washington, June 1988

ESRI, *ARC/INFO Systems Administration*, Redlands, California, March 1988

ESRI, *ARC/INFO Introduction to Database Design*, Redlands, California, March 1988

ESRI, *ARC/INFO Applications Programming (AML)*, Redlands, California, March 1988

ERDAS Corporation, *Introduction to ERDAS*, Helena, Montana, March 1988

ESRI, *ARC/INFO Training Course*, Helena, Montana, February/March 1988